3088, and a transitional gasket portion **3090**. The second gasket portion **3088** may mirror the first gasket portion **3086** and may be disposed on an opposite side of the transitional gasket portion **3090**. FIGS. **12***i* and **12***j* depict an exemplary embodiment of a series of the clamshell mechanisms **3000** with compliant gasket systems **3084**. FIG. **12***i* depicts the cover member **3040** in relation to the compliant gasket system **3084** when the cover member **3040** is in the protective position. In contrast, FIG. **12***j* depicts the cover member **3040** in relation to the compliant gasket system **3084** when the cover member **3040** is in the non-protective position. As depicted in FIG. **12***d*, the cover member **3040** may include a perimeter rib **3044** that may be shaped and sized such that, when cover member **3040** is in the protective position, the perimeter rib **3044** may compress the first gasket portion **3086** and a portion of the transitional gasket portion **3090**. Likewise, FIG. **12***j* depicts the mechanical seal created by the perimeter rib **3044** (see FIG. **12***d*) the second gasket portion **3088**, and a portion of the transitional gasket portion **3090**. In both of FIGS. **12***i* and **12***j*, the perimeter rib **3044** compresses respective portions of the transitional gasket portion **3090** such that the first and second pass-thru apertures **3036**, **3038** are within the mechanical seal created by the perimeter rib **3044** and the compliant gasket system **3084**. The first and second pass-thru apertures **3036**, **3038** may be contained with the mechanical seal to protect at least the first and second pairs of link-members **3028**, **3030** against the threat of contamination from foreign matter, particularly during cleaning of the clamshell mechanism **3000**.

[0668] Like the compliant gasket **2074** of the pivotable-cover mechanism **2000**, the compliant gasket system **3084** of the clamshell mechanism **3000** may be made of any suitably compliant material; such materials may include, but are not limited to, isobutylene, natural rubber, neoprene, styrene butadiene, and silicone. In addition, the compliant gasket material may be chosen so that the compliant gasket system **3084** is capable of resisting corrosion from solvents ordinarily used for cleaning device surfaces.

[0669] Additionally, and like the pivotable-cover mechanism **2000**, the mount connector **3078** of the embodiment depicted in FIGS. **12***a*-**12**j may be of a type having multiple spring contacts **3080**. Moreover, the cover member **3040** may likewise include a compliant material, such as but not limited to a polyurethane foam, that may be shaped and sized to receive and protect the spring contacts **3080** when the cover member **3040** is in the protective position.

A System for Receiving a Device

[0670] The aforementioned pivotable-cover or clamshell mechanisms **2000**, **3000** may be an embodiment of a protective mechanism **5002** that is a first element of a system for receiving a device **5000**. A second element of the system for receiving a device **5000** may be a receivable device **5020** that may include a device connector **5022** and a means for being received by the protective mechanism **5002**, such as the pivotable-cover or clamshell mechanisms **2000**, **3000**.

[0671] FIG. **13***a* depicts an exemplary embodiment of a receivable device **5020**, wherein the receivable device includes a device connector **5022** that is disposed on a first face **5024** of the receivable device **5020** such that the device connector **5022** is adapted to interface with a mechanism connector **5004** like the respective mount connectors **2068**, **3078** of the pivotable-cover and clamshell mechanisms **2000**, **3000**.

[0672] To receive the receivable device **5020**, the protective mechanism **5002** may include at least one rigid member **5008** disposed on a guide member **5006**. The at least one rigid member **5008** may be similar to the respective first and second rail projections **2056**, **3066**, **2062**, **3072** of the pivotable-cover and clamshell mechanisms **2000**, **3000** as described herein. The receivable device **5020** may include at least one channel **5028** defined by a second face **5026** of the receivable device **5020** and each of the at least one channel **5028** may be adapted to receive a respective at least one rigid member **5008** of the protective mechanism **5002**. In embodiments of the protective mechanism **5002** that include respective first and second rail projections **2056**, **3066**, **2062**, **3072** like those of the pivotable-cover and clamshell mechanisms **2000**, **3000**, the at least one channel **5028** may comprise a first channel **5030** adapted to receive the respective first rail projection **2056**, **3066** and a second channel **5032** adapted to receive the respective second rail projection **2062**, **3072**. FIGS. **13***a* and **13***b* depict an embodiment of the receivable device **5020** that includes the aforementioned first and second channels **5030**, **5032** that are adapted to receive the respective first and second rail projections **2056**, **3066**, **2062**, **3072** of the pivotable-cover and clamshell mechanisms **2000**, **3000**.

[0673] To secure the receivable device **5020** in place after the protective mechanism **5002** receives the receivable device **5020**, the protective mechanism **5002** may include a latch member **5014** having a latch member projection **5016** that engages a latch recess **5034** defined by the second face **5026** of the receivable device **5020**. FIGS. **13***a* and **13***b* depict an exemplary embodiment having a latch recess **5034**, and FIG. **13***c* depicts how the latch member projection **5016** may engage the latch recess **5034** to secure a received receivable device **5020**. Additionally, the protective mechanism **5002** may include any of the features discussed above with respect to the pivotable-cover and clamshell mechanisms **2000**, **3000**; such features may include, but are not limited to, a latch member spring **2048**, **3056** and latch member aperture **2044**, **3052**, for example.

[0674] When used in combination, the receivable device **5020** may cause the protective mechanism **5002** to automatically reveal the mechanism connector **5004** as the protective mechanism **5002** receives the receivable device **5020**, thereby allowing the mechanism connector **5004** and the device connector **5022** to interface with each other. For example, the progression of FIGS. **13***d*-**13***g* demonstrates how receiving a receivable device **5020** may cause the clamshell mechanism **3000** to automatically reveal a mechanism connector **5004**. As each of the at least one rigid member **5010** of the a respective protective mechanism slides within a corresponding at least one channel **5028** of the receivable device **5020**, the receivable device **5020** engages the sloped face **5011** of the actuation member **5010** as it slides towards the backstop member face **5007** and mechanism connector **5004** (FIG. **13***d*). As the receivable device **5020** continues to slide toward the backstop member face **5007**, the receivable device **5020** may begin to pivot the actuation member **5010** in a first direction from a first position to a second position (FIGS. **13***e* and **13***f*). As described above with respect to the pivotable-cover and clamshell mechanisms **2000**, **3000**, or other embodiment of